

Amendments to the Claims

1. (Original) An article including a surface having a coating thereon, said coating comprising:
 - (a) a polysaccharide component; and
 - (b) an antibiotic ceramic component dispersed within the polysaccharide component.
2. (Original) The article of Claim 1 wherein the antibiotic ceramic component comprises a zeolite material.
3. (Original) The article of Claim 2 wherein the zeolite material comprises silver ions ion-exchanged thereon.
4. (Original) The article of Claim 1, wherein the polysaccharide component comprises hyaluronan.
5. (Original) The article of Claim 1, comprising a polymeric tubing.
6. (Original) The article of Claim 1, comprising a polymeric catheter tubing.
7. (Original) The article of Claim 1, comprising a tubing made from a material selected from the group consisting of ethyl vinyl acetate and polyurethane.
8. (Original) The article of Claim 1, comprising a polymeric material providing said surface.
9. (Original) The article of Claim 1, wherein the surface is formed of a material selected from the group consisting of ethyl vinyl acetate and polyurethane.
10. (Original) An article including a surface having a coating thereon, said coating comprising:
 - (a) a base coat adhered to said surface, and
 - (b) a hydrophilic, biocompatible top-coat which is chemically grafted

to said base coat,

wherein the base coat includes an antibiotic ceramic component dispersed within the base coat.

11. (Original) The article of Claim 10, wherein the top-coat includes a polysaccharide component.

12. (Original) The article of Claim 10, wherein the antibiotic ceramic component comprises a zeolite material.

13. (Original) The article of Claim 12 wherein the zeolite material comprises silver ions ion-exchanged thereon.

14. (Original) The article of Claim 11, wherein the polysaccharide component comprises hyaluronan.

15. (Original) The article of Claim 10, comprising a polymeric tubing.

16. (Original) The article of Claim 10, comprising a polymeric catheter tubing.

17. (Original) The article of Claim 10, comprising a tubing made of a material selected from the group consisting of ethyl vinyl acetate and polyurethane.

18. (Original) The article of Claim 10, comprising a polymeric material providing said surface.

19. (Original) The article of Claim 10, wherein the surface is formed of a material selected from the group consisting of ethyl vinyl acetate and polyurethane.

20. (Original) A method for providing an object with antibiotic properties for introduction of the object into an animal, said method comprising:

coating the object on a surface portion thereof with a coating

comprising:

(i) a polysaccharide component; and

(ii) an antibiotic ceramic component dispersed within the polysaccharide component.

21. (Original) The method of Claim 20, wherein the antibiotic ceramic component comprises a zeolite component.

22. (Original) The method of Claim 20, wherein the zeolite component comprises silver ions ion-exchanged thereon.

23. (Original) The method of Claim 20, wherein the polysaccharide component comprises hyaluronan.

24. (Original) The method of Claim 20, wherein the object comprises polymeric tubing.

25. (Original) The method of Claim 20, wherein the object comprises polymeric catheter tubing.

26. (Original) The method of Claim 20, wherein the object comprises a tubing made of a material selected from the group consisting of ethyl vinyl acetate and polyurethane.

27. (Original) The method of Claim 20, wherein the object comprises a polymeric material.

28. (Original) The method of Claim 20, wherein the object comprises a material selected from the group consisting of ethyl vinyl acetate and polyurethane.

29. (Original) An article comprising a hyaluronan coating containing a silver ion exchanged zeolite.

30. (Original) An article comprising a substrate, a base coat, and a top-coat containing hyaluronan, wherein the base coat contains a silver ion exchanged zeolite.

31. (Currently amended) A method for providing an object with

antibiotic properties for introduction of the object into an animal, said method comprising:

coating the object on a surface portion thereof with a coating comprising:

(i) a base coat which adheres firmly to said surface portion, and polysaccharide component, and

(ii) a hydrophilic, biocompatible top-coat, the top-coat being chemically grafted to said base coat, the top-coat including a polysaccharide component,

the method further comprising dispersing an antibiotic ceramic component within said base coat.

32. (Original) The method of Claim 31, wherein the antibiotic ceramic component comprises a zeolite component.

33. (Original) The method of Claim 31, wherein the zeolite component comprises silver ions ion-exchanged thereon.

34. (Original) The method of Claim 31, wherein the polysaccharide component comprises hyaluronan.

35. (Original) The method of Claim 31, wherein the object comprises polymeric tubing.

36. (Original) The method of Claim 31, wherein the object comprises polymeric catheter tubing.

37. (Original) The method of Claim 31, wherein the object comprises a tubing made of a material selected from the group consisting of ethyl vinyl acetate and polyurethane.

38. (Original) The method of Claim 31, wherein the object comprises a polymeric material.

39. (Original) The method of Claim 31, wherein the object comprises a

material selected from the group consisting of ethyl vinyl acetate and polyurethane.

40. (Original) An article having a coating which includes a polysaccharide and a silver ion exchanged zeolite.

41. (Original) An article having a coating which includes hyaluronan and a silver ion exchanged zeolite.